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NEW YORK, April 26, 1879.

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The Publishers' Weekly.

APRIL 26, 1879.

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PUBLICATION OFFICE, 13 & 15 PARK Row, N. Y.

THE offices of THE PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY, as also of F. Leypoldt, have been removed to 13-15 Park Row, near Broadway, Rooms 39-43. Elevator in the building.

NOTES IN SEASON.

REV. DR. LYMAN ABBOTT's "Commentary on the Gospel of St. John" will be published by A. S. Barnes & Co. on Tuesday, April 22d. This is likely to prove one of the most popular commentaries on the Fourth Gospel yet put forward.

HENRY HOLT & CO. have just ready their competition \$1.25 edition of Taine,—a marvel of cheapness, from the regular long-primer type (over 1000 pages), and in very attractive cloth binding; also Beerbohm's "Wanderings in Patagonia" in the *Leisure Hour* series, with a map and a couple of illustrations—another cheap book, and a narrative of travel and adventure in a fresh field, at once informing and thrillingly entertaining.

R. WORTHINGTON calls attention to the fact that the complete Tennysons issued by him include the laureate's very latest poems, but just published in the English periodicals,—"The Revenge," and "The Defence of Lucknow," with the dedicatory poem to the Princess Alice. This is a capital piece of enterprise. These are the *Lansdowne* editions, red line at \$1.25, others at \$1.50 and \$1, and the same in *Chandos Classics* style at the astonishingly low price of 50 cents.

SCRIBNER & WELFORD have just in a new volume of the admirable *South Kensington Art Handbooks*, viz., on "Gold and Silver Smith's

Work," prepared by John Hungersford Pollen, M.A., a work that will be interesting to many collectors; also a new *Bohn* volume, one of the new translation of Lessing's works, by E. L. Beasley and Helen Zimmern, containing in compact shape the "Laokoon," "How the Ancients represented Death," and "Dramatic Notes."

ROBERT CARTER & BROS. will have ready Miss Susan Warner's new novel, "My Desire," about the second week in May. It is of what the playwrights call "contemporaneous interest," and is said to recall the strength of her earliest books. It is entirely independent of any previous stories, and no sequel is contemplated. Miss Anna Warner, the other sister, has completed a pleasant book telling the story of some indoor gardening, under the curious title of "The Blue Flag and the Cloth of Gold," but this will not be issued until fall.

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS have about ready the volume of *vers de société*, "Briefs of a Barrister," by Mr. E. R. Johns, of New York City; "Puritan and Quaker," by R. G. B., who gives a vivid picture of old Puritan times; the volume of practical hints on "Emergencies and how to meet them," "Neurological Contributions" by Dr. W. A. Hammond, which is planned to be issued as a serial with about 4 volumes a year; "A Reading Book for English Classics," by Rev. C. W. Leffingwell, designed to provide young readers with an attractive introduction to sound literature; and the first number of the new medical periodical entitled "Archives of Ophthalmology."

PORTER & COATES have just published new editions of Moore's Poetical Works, Youatt and Skinner on the Horse, and Watson's "Dictionary of Poetical Quotations." "The Mail Carrier," by Harry Castlemon, just published, completes the *Boy Trapper Series*, consisting of three volumes: 1, "The Buried Treasure"; 2, "The Boy Trapper"; 3, "The Mail Carrier." They also have in preparation a new edition of Shakespeare, which it is promised will have the clearest type of any one-volume edition published. A new edition of "Famous Horses of America," fully illustrated and brought down to the present time, will soon be issued.

BICKNELL & COMSTOCK have just ready the book of Ames' Alphabets, which presents in 32 large plates a remarkable variety of alphabet designs, a very necessary tool for engravers, draughtsmen, sign-painters, and others. It is at the low price of \$1.50. Cameron's "Plasterer's Manual," with illustrations of tools, etc., is a comprehensive guide in a trade hitherto without such a book; and especial attention should be called to the "New Carpenter's and Builder's Assistant and Wood Worker's Guide," revised and enlarged, including a large number of practical tables, miscellaneous rules, and a glossary of terms used in building, by Lucius D. Gould. The important practical work by Geo. T. Powell and Frederick Bauman, architects, on "Foundations and Foundation Walls," pile-driving, building-stones and bricks, etc., with annotated extracts from the New York building laws, will be ready the first of June.

AUCTION SALE.

May 12:—Spring Parcel Sale.—Bangs.

WEEKLY RECORD OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

In this list, the titles in *brevier* are direct transcriptions from books actually received, according to the rules of the American Library Association; those in *nonpareil* are from the best information available, and will be repeated in *brevier* when the book is received for registry.

The notes followed by a number are those which are sent out on printed title-slips, as revised by the Library Association authorities; unless bracketed, which means that they have not yet been so revised. Those not followed by a number are on the sole authority of the *WEEKLY*, and are not included in the title-slip registry.

The abbreviations are usually self-explanatory. A colon after initial designates the most usual given name, as: A: Augustus; B: Benjamin; C: Charles; D: Daniel; E: Edward; F: Frederic; G: George; H: Henry; I: Isaac; J: John; L: Louis; N: Nicholas; P: Peter; R: Richard; S: Samuel; T: Thomas; W: William.

Sizes are designated as follows: F. (folio: over 30 centimeters high); Q. (4to: under 30 cm.); O. (8vo: 25 cm.); D. (xamo: 20 cm.); S. (16mo: 17½ cm.); T. (24mo: 15 cm.); Tt. (32mo: 12½ cm.); Fe. (48mo: 10 cm.). Sq., obl., nar., designate square, oblong, narrow books of these heights. Where figure instead of letter symbols are used, the record is from publisher's designation, and not measurement.

Imported books are marked with an asterisk; authors' and subscription books, or books published at net prices, with two asterisks; educational books published at "wholesale" prices, with a dagger.

Adams, W. H. Davenport. The secret of success; or, how to get on in the world; with remarks upon true and false success, and art of making best use of life: *Amer. ed.*, ed. by P. G. H. N. Y., G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1879. 10 + 389 p. D. cl., \$1.50.

Practical advice and suggestions for young men beginning life; designed to encourage, stimulate, and warn; illustrated by numerous anecdotes. Chapters on: Time and its uses; Aims in life; A steady purpose; The three P's—punctuality, prudence, perseverance; Business habits; Business men and business notes; The race and the athlete; Self-help; Reasonable service and true success. Index.

Agassiz, Mrs. Elizabeth C. A first lesson in natural history. *New ed.* Bost., Ginn & Heath, 1879. 64 p. T. il. (Guides for science-teaching, no. 4.) pap., +35 c.

Gives in narrative form, for very young children, a general history of hydroids, corals, and echinoderms; belonging to "Natural history stories." Written twenty years ago, under direction of Prof. Louis Agassiz.

Alden, Jos., D.D. Thoughts on the religious life; with introd. by W. Cullen Bryant. N. Y., G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1879. 16°. cl., \$1.

Beecher, Mrs. H. W. Letters from Florida. N. Y., Appleton, 1879. 85 p. il. S. cl., 50 c. 6 letters, entitled: A home and work for all; Castles in Spain; Lift up the hands that hang down, and strengthen the feeble knees; What has been done, and can be done again; What have you to say about malarial fever? Seek the truth in private homes, not in hotel life. Appendix on: Orange-growing in Florida; Remarkable fountain in Florida Products of western Florida.

Bennett, D. M., *see* Trial.

Chamberlain, Miss P. B. The mistress of the house. N. Y., T. Y. Crowell, [1879]. 244 p. il. S. cl., \$1.25.

Story for young girls; a mother is called from her home, and leaves her daughter of fifteen, who is a Christian, to keep house for the step-father and his son, who are not Christians; the history of her endeavors, and the good results.

Clay, Bertha M. Lady Damer's secret: a novel. N. Y., G. W. Carleton & Co., 1879. 429 p. 12°. cl., \$1.50.

Denison, Mrs. Mary Andrews. Erin go bragh; by the author of "That husband of mine." Washington, D. C., Globe Printing and Pub. House. 354 p. 12°. cl., \$1.50; pap., 75 c.

Dumas, Alex. Spell-bound: a novel. N. Y., G. W. Carleton & Co., 1879. 247 p. 16°. cl., 75 c.

Ellinwood, March. A year at Poplar Row. N. Y., T. Y. Crowell, [1879]. 277 p. il. S. cl., \$1.25.

Story of the experiences of a young girl who goes to live a year with a wealthy aunt on whom a great sorrow has fallen; designed to show the power and influence a cheerful, sunny Christian may exert over the home of a sad, stern, religious woman.

Elliott, F. R. Handbook for fruit growers, made for those who grow fruit for their own use; with addenda treating on flowering shrubs, roses, etc. *New ed.* Rochester, N. Y., D. M. Dewey, 1879. 128 p. il. 16°. pap., 60 c.

Ferris, G. T. The great Italian and French composers. N. Y., Appleton, 1879. 248 p. S. (Appleton's new handy-v. ser., no. 28.) cl., 60 c.; pap., 30 c.

Biographical and critical sketches of Palestrina, Piccini, Paisiello, and Cimarosa, Rossini, Donizetti, Bellini, Verdi,

Cherubini and his predecessors, Méhul, Spontini, Havély, Boieldieu and Auber, Meyerbeer, Gounod; illustrated by numerous anecdotes, and popularly written.

Forrester, Mrs. —. Rhona: a novel. Phil., Lippincott, 1879. 385 p. D. cl., \$1.50.

English society novel, dealing chiefly with love and marriage; heroine's too exacting love for her husband the point on which plot turns; scenes from fashionable life in the city and country.

Gilbert, W. S. H.M.S. Pinafore; or, the lass that loved a sailor: nautical opera in 2 acts. With por. of principal characters in costume. N. Y., G. W. Carleton & Co., 1879. 46 p. 16°. pap., 10 c.

Gripper, C. F. Railway tunnelling in heavy ground. N. Y., E. & F. N. Spon, 1879. 66 p. 3 pl. 4°. cl., \$3.

Hamerton, Philip Gilbert, and others. Higher education and a common language. N. Y., A. S. Barnes & Co., [1879]. 120 p. O. (Atlas ser., no. 9.) pap., 40 c.

7 essays: International communication by language, by P. G. Hamerton; The reform in higher education; Upper schools, by Pres. McCosh; Study of the Greek and Latin classics, by C. Elliott; The university system in Italy, by Prof. Angelo de Gubernatis; Universal education, by Ray Palmer; Industrial art education in the U. S., by Eaton S. Drone.

Hammond, W. A. Fasting girls: their physiology and pathology. N. Y., G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1879. 76 p. 12°. flex. 75 c.

Hazletine, Mayo W. American woman in Europe; [also] Keys to N. Y. society. N. Y., Am. News Co., 1879. 85 p. sq. 16°. pap., 50 c.

Hodge, C. D.D. Conference papers; or, analyses of discourses, doctrinal and practical; delivered on Sabbath afternoons to the students of the Theological Seminary, Princeton, N. J. N. Y., C. Scribner's Sons, 1879. 15 + 373 p. O. cl., \$3.

Grouped under 10 headings, entitled: God and his attributes; Christ, his person and offices; The Holy Spirit and his offices; Satan and his influence—sin and sins; Conversion—entrance upon the Christian life; Christian experiences, characteristics and privileges; Christian responsibilities and duties; The means of grace—the Scriptures, ministry, sacraments, etc.; Death, and the consummation of redemption; Last words—papers prepared during the last year of his life.

Hull, Asa. Wreath of praise. N. Y. and Cinc., J. Church & Co., 1879. Obl. 12°. bds., 35 c.; pap., 25 c.

Jerome, Ferris. High-water mark: a novel. Phil., Lippincott, 1879. 12°. cl., \$1.50.

Keerayeff, P. Tables of the principal speeds occurring in mechanical engineering, expressed in metres, in a second; tr. by Sergius Kern. N. Y., E. & F. N. Spon, 1879. 19 p. 18°. pap., *20 c.

Kimball, Elijah H. The Gospels in poetry. N. Y., G. W. Carleton & Co., 1879. 500 p. 12°. cl., \$1.50.

Kitchen boiler and water pipes: their arrangement and management, especially their treatment during frost, and how to avoid explosions. N. Y., E. & F. N. Spon, 1879. 15 p. pl. 8°. pap., *40 c.

Leffingwell, Rev. C. W., ed. Reading book of English classics, for use in schools. N. Y., G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1879. 12°. cl., \$1.50.

Nightingale, A. F., ed. Handbook of requirements for admission to the colleges of the U. S.; with miscellaneous addenda. N. Y., Appleton, 1879. 8°. cl., \$1.

Our first baby; or, infelicities of our honeymoon. N. Y., Collin & Co., 1879. 64 p. il. sq. 8°. pap., 20 c.

Payn, Ja. Under one roof: an episode in a family history: a novel. N. Y., Harper,

1879. 75 p. Q. (Franklin sq. lib., no. 53.) pap., 15 c. The usual English novel, with two or three love affairs, some mystery and crime, and scenes from middle-class life in that country.

Rattan, Volney. A popular California flora; or, manual for beginners. San Francisco, A. L. Bancroft & Co., 1879. 103 p. sq. 4°. cl., \$1.

Rayne, Mrs. M. Louise. Fallen among thieves: a summer tour. N. Y., G. W. Carleton & Co., 1879. 351 p. 12°. cl., \$1.50.

Shakespeare, W: Tragedy of Hamlet; with introd. and notes explanatory and critical, for use in schools and classes, by Rev. H. N. Hudson. Bost., Ginn & Heath, 1879. 18 + 258 p. sq. S. (Annotated English classics.) cl., 75 c. New edition from new stereotype plates, with addition of introd. and critical notes. Intro. discusses: history of play; source of plot; general characteristics; political basis of action; Hamlet's madness, his alleged defect of will, why he does not strike the king, etc.; the characters of Laertes, the king, ghost, Horatio, Polonius, Ophelia, queen, etc. Explanatory notes at bottom of page; critical notes (at p.) at end of volume.

Squibb, E. R. Proposed legislation on adulteration of food and medicine: rough draft of proposed law to prevent adulteration of food and medicine, and to create a State board of health, with expl. and illustrations of the principal points of the law; from *Transactions of the Med. Soc. of N. Y.* 1879; [also] Notes in reply to criticisms by the press: the British "Sales of food and drugs act of 1875," with notices of some rulings of the British court. N. Y., G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1879. 57 p. D. (Economic monographs, no. 14.) pap., 25 c.

Stockton, Frank R. Rudder Grange. N. Y., C: Scribner's Sons, 1879. 8 + 270 p. S. cl., \$1.25. Humorous account of the adventures of a young couple who go to housekeeping on a small income; papers originally published in *Scribner's Monthly*.

Symonds, J: Addington. Renaissance in Italy: the fine arts. N. Y., Holt, 1879. 14 + 550 p. 0. cl., \$3.50. Defines the relation of the Italian arts to the main movement of Renaissance culture; explains their dependence on mediæval Christianity at their commencement, their gradual emancipation from ecclesiastical control, and their final attainment of freedom at the culmination of the classical revival. Chapters on: The problem for the fine arts; Architecture; Sculpture; Painting; Venetian painting; Life of Michael Angelo; Life of Benvenuto Cellini; The Epigoni. 3 appendices on: The pulpits of Pisa and Ravello; etc.

Taine, H. A. History of English literature; tr. by H. Van Laun. Complete in 1 v. N. Y., J. W. Lovell, 1879. 750 p. 12°. cl., \$1.50.

Trial of D. M. Bennett in the U. S. Circuit Court, Judge C. L. Benedict presiding, N. Y., March 18-21, 1879, upon charge of depositing prohibited matter in the mails; reported by S. B. Hinsdale. N. Y., *The Truth Seeker* office, [1879]. 8 + 5-189 p. D. cl., 50 c.; pap., 30 c.

Tucker, Rev. H. W. Memoirs of the life and episcopate of G. Augustus Selwyn, D.D., bishop of New Zealand, 1841-1869; bishop of Lichfield, 1869-1878. N. Y., Pott, Young & Co., 1879. 2 v. por., lithos., and maps. 8°. cl., \$10.

Uncle Sam-ee and his little Chinee. N. Y., Collin & Co., 1879. 32 p. 12°. pap., 10 c.

Vail, A. D. Greek literature. N. Y., Phillips & Hunt, 1879. 128 p. 24°. (Chautauqua text-books, no. 6.) pap., 20 c.

Vaughan, Victor C. Lecture notes on chemical physiology and pathology. 2d ed., rev. and enl. Ann Arbor, Mich., Ann Arbor Printing and Pub. Co., 1879. 315 p. 8°. cl., \$2.

Warren, S. E: Drafting instruments and operations; in 4 divisions: 1, Instruments and materials; 2, Fundamental operations; 3, Plane problems and practical exercises; 4, Elements of taste in geometrical drawing: text-book for schools, and artisans' classes, and for self-instruction. 2d ed., rev. and enl. with new pl. and wood-cuts. N. Y., J. Wiley & Sons, 1879. 12 + 152 p. O. (Industrial science drawing, no. 2.) cl., \$1.25. Teaches correct practice in the execution of finished mechanical drawings by full instructions, applied in varied exercises. 7 plates and a selection of 50 of the most commonly useful plane geometrical problems added to present edition. First issued in 1864.

Weigall, C. H. The art of figure drawing, cont. practical instructions for a course of study in this branch of art; with 17 il. on wood by author and eng. by W. G. Mason; from 21st London ed., ed. by Susan N. Carter. N. Y., G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1879. 53 p. S. (Putnam's art hand-books, no. 4.) bds., 50 c. Rules and illustrations given in simple, direct language; information and suggestions added in foot-notes by American editor, the principal of the Woman's Art School, Cooper Union. Chapters on: Lines, Proportion, The arm, Female figure, Foot, Hand, Front face, The eye and ear, Nose and mouth, The profile head, Expression, Method of outline, Drawing from the living figure.

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Agassiz, First lesson in nat. hist., n. e. net 35

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ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS.

RESOLVED, That this Convention recognize the Publishers' Weekly as the established organ of the entire trade, and recommend it to publishers as the medium through which they should make their "first announcement" of books they propose to publish, and the full title of all books immediately on publication.—AMERICAN BOOK-TRADE ASSOCIATION.

AMERICAN NEWS CO., N. Y.

Chats about new books, by Mayo W. Hazeltine.
Sent to Coventry, and, A Queen of Spades. By Mayo W. Hazeltine.

CHARLES A. LILLEY, N. Y.

The household book of gummed labels, for everything used in the house, preserves, pickles, seeds, medicines, etc., [also] tags for baskets, bundles, bags, etc., alphabetically arranged in classes.

LINDSAY & BLAKISTON, Phila.

The art of perfumery, by G. W. Septimus Piesse, Ph.D., F.C.S., 4th ed. enlarged, 40 woodcuts.

PORTER & COATES, Phila.

Famous horses of America, new ed., il. 4°, cl., \$1.50.
The garland: coll. of religious poems, sel. by Eliza P. Gurney, 12°.
Shakespeare's complete works, Fireside ed., roy. 8°.

PETER G. THOMPSON, Cinc.

Sixteen saviours or one? the gospels not Brahmanic, by John T. Perry. (About May 10).
Guide to the examination of urine, with special reference to the diseases of the urinary apparatus, by K. B. Hoffmann and R. Ultzmann, from the 2d ed., tr. and ed. by F. Forchheimer, M.D. (About June 10).

PUBLISHERS' PRIORITY CLAIMS.

From the New York Commercial Advertiser for the week ending April 22.

APRIL 17.

Roberts Bros.:—The Chimney Corner.—Wit, Wisdom, and Pathos of Heine.—Basildon, by Mrs. A. W. Hunt.—

Travels with a Donkey in the Cevennes, by Louis Stevenson.—A Nook in the Apennines, by Leander Scott.—Londoniana, by Edward Walford.—The Ingenious Knight Don Quixote de la Mancha, by Cervantes. Translated from the original by A. J. Duffield.

APRIL 18.

D. Appleton & Co.:—Forstmeister, by Berthold Auerbach.

APRIL 21.

Harper & Bros.:—Lectures on French Poets, by W. N. Pollock.—Basildon.—Catching a Tartar.—Won, but Lost.—The Master of Red Leaf.—Readings from English History, selected and edited by John Richard Green.—Crossford.—Orange Lily.—The Cabul Insurrection of 1841-2.

APRIL 22.

Harper & Bros.:—The Four Gospels in English Verse, by Clara Virginia Hodges.—Readings from English History, ed. by J. Richard Green.

Houghton, Osgood & Co.:—The Four Gospels in English Verse, with notes by Clara Virginia Hodges.

J. B. Lippincott & Co.:—In the Schillingscourt, from the German of E. Marlitt, by Mrs. A. L. Wister.—Round the World in Six Months, by Colonel E. S. Bridges.—Madelon, by Mrs. Leith Adams.

G. P. Putnam's Sons:—Common Mind Troubles, by J. Mortimer Granville, M.D.

Roberts Bros.:—Greene Ferne Farm, by the author of "The Gamekeeper at Home."—On the Choice of Books, by Frederick Harrison.

Charles Scribner's Sons:—Memoirs of Prince Metternich, by his son, Prince Richard Metternich and Hofrat Alfons von Klinkowstrom.—A History of Our Own Times, by Justin McCarthy.—The River of Golden Sand, by Captain Gill, R.E.—A Memory of Thomas Moore, by S. C. Hall.

RECENT ENGLISH PUBLICATIONS.

Export Merchant Shippers of London, Manchester, etc., 1879. 8°. Dean	12s. 6d.	Hebert, C.—The Lord's Supper: Uninspired Teaching. 2 vols. 8°. Seeley	28s.
Gebler, K. v.—Galileo Galilei and the Roman Curia, translated by Mrs. G. Sturge. 8°. C. K. Paul & Co.	12s.	Klein, E., and E. N. Smith.—Atlas of histology, part 1, 4°. Smith, Elder & Co.	6s.
Gosse, E. W.—Studies in the Literature of Northern Europe. 8°. C. Kegan Paul & Co.	12s.	McCoan, J. C.—Our New Protectorate: Turkey in Asia, its Geography, etc. 2 vols. cr. 8°. Chapman & Hall.	24s.
Grant, F. W.—Facts and Theories as to a Future State. Cr. 8°. Holmes	4s. 6d.	McNeile, Dean, Collected Works. Vol. 2, Prophecies relative to the Jews. 8°. Hodder	10s. 6d.

The Publishers' Weekly.

F. LEVOLDT, *Bibliographical Editor.*
R. R. BOWKER, *General Editor.*

APRIL 26, 1879.

PUBLISHERS are requested to furnish title-page proofs and advance information of books forthcoming, both for entry in the lists and for descriptive mention. An early copy of each book published should be forwarded, to insure correctness in the final entry.

The trade are invited to send "Communications" to the editor on any topic of interest to the trade, and as to which an interchange of opinion is desirable. Also, matter for "Notes and Queries." Notes from librarians will also be gratefully received.

In case of business changes, notification or card should be immediately sent to this office for entry under "Business Notes." New catalogues issued will also be mentioned when forwarded.

"Every man is a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men do of course seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves by way of amends to be a help thereunto."—LORD BACON.

STATE TEXT-BOOKS AGAIN.

THE text-book bill, which we reprint in full elsewhere, passed the New York State Senate on Monday of this week with only three negative votes. In commenting on this bill, passed with such extraordinary unanimity, the *Evening Post* says:

"While a frequent change of school text-books is an evil against which complaint is often justly made, it is questionable whether or not this bill furnishes the best remedy. In the first place, it will entail great expense by requiring the introduction of an entirely new set of books in almost all parts of the state. The books in use are the result of great competition, and entirely new ones will run a great risk of being inferior to them. But, as the present books are protected by copyright, the books proposed would have to be prepared from original sources, unless the publishers of some of those now in use should obtain the contract, and even with the supervision of the state Superintendent there will be great danger that the books chosen will after trial be found unsatisfactory. We see no reason why the professed object of this bill—stability—may not be secured simply by providing that when the school authorities of a district have selected their text-books these books shall not be changed oftener than once in five years, and then only with the consent of the Superintendent of Public Instruction."

This puts the sensible view of the case—and the publishers' view as well as the public's—in a nutshell. The possibility of capturing the entire state may be a fascinating temptation to a school-book publisher, or to one ambitious of

that distinction, but the bill, if it should become a law, would introduce a system equally disastrous to the makers and to the users of school-books.

We reprint, in this connection, the extract from the *Educational Weekly* (Chicago) for the especial purpose of calling attention to the popular view of school-book publishing which is here not unfairly represented. (Since then, this journal has practically "taken it all back" in a second editorial article.) Much of what it says is so far from the mark as to be amusing, but the representation of public feeling and the remarks on the future of educational publishing, under the present reckless system of agency expenditures, are scarcely exaggerated. The educational publishers are themselves responsible for the idea that the business is one of outrageous profits, by the abominations of the agency system. As a matter of fact, taking the business together, it is probable that such expenditures last year absorbed the entire profits of the school-book publishers. The current tendency to extreme and mistaken legislation and the present public prejudice can be met only by such steps on the part of leading educational publishers as will bring about a more sensible method of doing business and so assure a future for this branch of the trade.

THIS is the age of improvements. The telephone being now an established institution, the next is the pneumatic tube for private express service. Such a tube is now in process of construction along Printing House Square, New York, connecting the *Herald*, *Staats Zeitung*, and the intermediate daily newspaper offices.

As this is the season of removals, we would ask those in the trade who have moved or are about to move to send us their new addresses, with a view to making a reference-list.

BOOKSELLERS' AND STATIONERS' PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the Board, held at 25 Bond Street, Wednesday evening, April 24th, the following notification was ordered made:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, }
NEW YORK, April 24, 1879. }

A special meeting of this Association will be held at the Trade-Sale Rooms of Messrs. Geo. A. Leavitt & Co., Clinton Hall, New York, on Thursday, May 1st, 1879, at 8 p.m.

The Constitution as amended by the Board of Trustees will be submitted to the Association for final action thereon.

A full attendance of *all* the members is respectfully requested.

J. F. VOGELIUS, *Secretary.*

THE NEW YORK STATE TEXT-BOOK
BILL.

THE following is the New York text-book bill, as reported by the Senate Committee. It passed the Senate Monday, April 22d, with but three negative votes.

SECTION 1. The comptroller, treasurer, and superintendent of public instruction of the State of New York are hereby authorized and directed as a board to advertise for proposals, and to enter into, let, and award a contract to the bidder, who, after giving good and sufficient bond, in the penal sum of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars, for the full and faithful performance of such contract, shall offer and agree to sell to all persons within this State at the lowest price at all times for a term of fifteen years the following text-books, provided that such books shall not be sold at a greater price than stated below: speller, not to exceed fifteen cents; first reader, not to exceed ten cents; second reader, not to exceed twenty cents; third reader, not to exceed thirty cents; fourth reader, not to exceed forty cents; first grammar, not to exceed twenty-five cents; practical grammar, not to exceed fifty cents; first arithmetic, not to exceed twelve cents; second arithmetic, not to exceed twenty-five cents; third arithmetic, not to exceed fifty cents; first geography, not to exceed fifty cents; second geography, not to exceed eighty cents; book of history, not to exceed one dollar and fifty cents.

SEC. 2. Said contract shall also provide that the books aforesaid shall be equal in size and quality, as to matter and material, to the following text-books now in general use, to wit: The speller to Parker & Watson's national speller; the first, second, third, and fourth readers, equal to Harvey's first, second, third, and fourth readers; the first and second grammars, equal to Clark's brief grammar, and Clark's practical grammar; the three books of arithmetic, equal to Robinson's primary, intellectual, and practical arithmetic; the two books of geography, equal to Cornell's primary and intermediate geography; the one book of history, equal to Barnes' brief history. The quality in matter and material of said books shall be determined by the superintendent of public instruction.

SEC. 3. Said contract shall also provide that books shall be delivered to the express office or freight office in this State where the contractor shall be doing business, packed and directed at the prices named in the contract, and not exceeding those designated in the first section of this act, and that orders for books from trustees of school districts shall be given preference as to time in filling orders, over orders of dealers or other persons.

SEC. 4. The text of all the books enumerated in such contract shall be subject, not oftener than once in each period of five years, to such revision and alteration as the superintendent of public instruction shall direct.

SEC. 5. When a sufficient number of the text-books herein provided for are ready for sale, the superintendent shall issue an order declaring such text-books to be the regularly adopted text-books for the public schools of the State, and shall give such time as he shall deem proper for the substitution of the books herein provided for the books then in use, and he shall trans-

mit a printed copy of his order to the trustee or trustees of every school district, and the board of education of every union free school district in the state, by sending sufficient copies to school commissioners, who shall transmit them to the town clerks by whom they shall be transmitted to the trustees and boards of education. After the expiration of the time designated in the order of the superintendent, any trustee or member of a board of education who shall permit the habitual use in the school or schools under or partly under his charge, of any reading book, speller, grammar, arithmetic, geography, or history other than those directed to be used by the order of the superintendent, without the special permission of the superintendent, shall thereby become liable to removal from office, and it shall be the duty of the superintendent to so remove such offending trustee or member of a board of education.

SEC. 6. In case said contractor, his personal representatives or assigns, shall at any time fail to fulfil any of the terms of said contract on his part to be observed, the entire penal sum thereof shall at once become due and owing to the state, and it shall be the duty of the attorney-general to cause suit to be instituted in the name of the state, to enforce the liability on the bond aforesaid of the principal and sureties thereon; and the board provided for by section 1 of this act are hereby empowered, in case of such failure, to annul and set aside said contract and to again, and with full power, force, and effect, advertise and award as provided for by sections 1, 2, and 3 of this act.

SEC. 7. The inhabitants of any district, at an annual or special meeting thereof, may authorize the trustee or trustees to purchase direct from the contractor, for the use of the school or schools of such district, sufficient of said books for all the pupils, and may vote a tax to pay for the same and for the transportation thereof.

SEC. 8. But this act shall not be construed to prevent pupils who have advanced beyond the studies embraced in said books from using other books, and this act shall not be obligatory upon boards of education acting under special charters.

SEC. 9. This act shall take effect immediately.

A LIVELY VIEW OF STATE TEXT-BOOKS

From the *Educational Weekly* (Chicago).

IT may be said that it will be difficult for a commission to compile these text-books, that the talent may be wanting in Illinois, and that the law would, through incapacity or disagreement, be inoperative. Well, now, if there are three experienced teachers in Illinois who could not, during the next summer vacation, draft a better series of school-books than any, and better series than all of those now in use in Chicago, for instance, they would deserve to be kicked across the big bridge and compelled to spend the rest of their days in the deplorable state of Missouri. If enterprising publishers can do no better than this, is it not time for the state to take hold and lift us out of this slough of extraordinarily defective and exorbitantly expensive text-books?

It may be said that it is not good public policy to have the state compete with private enterprise, and that the publishers already in the field have vested rights. The same line of argument

would prevent penitentiary convicts from working at any useful trade, and preclude the suppression of robbers on the highway.

School-book publishers have plucked the people long enough. The day of their almost total extinction is not so remote as they proudly imagine. How can they afford to buy legislatures and city school-boards? How do they manage to support so many expensive agents? How do they afford to pay such enormous sums for advertising? How does each firm manage to retire a set of partners every few years? The sums represented by these measures should remain in the pockets of the people of the state, and may so remain if Mr. Bower's bill becomes a law and its provisions are judiciously carried out. Then, teachers of Illinois, in the name of independence of publishers, of immunity from their bores of agents, and cheap and uniform text-books, let us "haste to the Bower."

THE ROUTLEDGE SILVER CELEBRATION.

It was just twenty-five years ago, April 20th, 1854, that Mr. George Routledge, with Mr. Jos. L. Blamire, long known as the manager of the American branch house of Geo. Routledge & Sons, arrived in New York with the purpose of establishing this branch, which has since attained such considerable proportions. Those connected with this establishment joined in doing honor to the occasion by a "silver celebration," which took the shape of a pleasant dinner at Sutherland's. Mr. Jos. L. Blamire, as chairman, and Mr. Henry M. Reed, the widely popular representative of the house with the trade, as vice-chairman, were supported by Messrs. George L. Beeston, Patrick Keenan, John A. McQuillan, John Moss, Charles H. Pierson, James J. Potter, Henry Richardson, Otto Sucke, Marcus Woodle, as the committee.

The rest of the story is told in the clever bill of fare, which we reproduce entire as a capital "humor of the trade." It is Mr. Marcus Woodle, we understand, who is responsible for this trade "Pinafore." He is certainly entitled to the nomination for poet laureate of the trade.

"God bless us, every one," said Tiny Tim."—*Dickens.*

"Then fill the bowl—away with gloom!
Our joys shall always last;
For hope shall brighten days to come,
And memory gild the past."—*Moore.*

"A dinner lubricates business."—*Stowell.*

PROGRAMME.

TOAST: "The House of George Routledge, London". MR. JOSEPH L. BLAMIRE.

"The imprint of George Routledge & Sons is a guarantee of literary excellence and moral purity."—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

"As half in shade, and half in sun,
The world along its path advances,
May that side the sun's upon
Be all that e'er shall meet thy glances."—*Moore.*

"A good digestion to you all; and once more, I shower a welcome on you; welcome all."—*Shakespeare.*

CHORUS.

Oh! I'm the manager of the firm,
I've been here many a term,
I see that none his duty shirks,
And we are his salesmen, and his porters, and his clerks,
And we are his salesmen, and his porters, and his clerks,
And his salesmen and his porters,
Whom he pays by the quarters,
And his clerks."

TOAST: "The American Branch and its Manager, Mr. Joseph L. Blamire."

MR. HENRY M. REED.

A noble record of twenty-five years devoted to the work of building up the agency of a house whose influence for good extends to-day throughout the length and breadth of the United States.

CHORUS.

For he is a Routledgeman,
For he himself has said it;
And it's greatly to his credit
That he is a Routledgeman,
That he is a Routledgeman.
For he might have been a Harper,
A Scribner or a Carter,
Or perhaps an Apple-tan,
Or perhaps an Apple-tan.
But in spite of all temptations
To sell other publications,
He remains a Routledgeman,
He remains a Routledgeman.

TOAST: "Our Guests" MR. G. A. KUNDHALI.

"Be merry, thou, with me to-day,
And I'll be wise with thee to-morrow."

TOAST: "The Travellers."

MR. JOHN A. MCQUILLAN.

"Fetter not commerce! Let her be free as air, and, like the birds, she will range the whole creation, and return on the winged wings of heaven to bless the earth with peace and plenty."—*Patrick Henry.*

We're the travellers of the store,
We wear clothes without a flaw,
At the best hotels we display our works,
And we bother all the buyers, and the salesmen, and the clerks,
And we bother all the buyers, and the salesmen, and the clerks,
And especially the buyers,
Who call us awful liars,
And the clerks.

TOAST: "The Home Department."

MR. JAMES J. POTTER.

"When I see a merchant over-polite to his customers, begging them to taste a little brandy, and throwing half his goods on the counter, thinks I, that man has an axe to grind."—*Miner.*

CHORUS.

Orders are not what they seem,
Some look nice and turn out mean.
Buyer comes into the store,
He's a bore and nothing more,
Frequentlee,
So he be.

TOAST: "The Counting-House."

MR. CHARLES H. PIERSON.

"Up! up! my friend, and quit your books,
Or surely you'll grow double.
Up! up! my friend, and clear your looks;
Why all this toil and trouble?"—*Wordsworth.*

CHORUS.

They made me a Book-keeper—poor little Book-keeper,
Though I could never tell why;
But still I'm a Book-keeper—dear little Book-keeper,
Sweet little Book-keeper I.
I use ink and paper, and sometimes the scraper
To obliterate some ugly blot.
Mistakes I make never—What?—Well, hardly ever,
So few they are readily forgot.
So drink to your Book-keeper—dear little Book-keeper,
Drink, drink, for I am mighty dry.
Look at your Book-keeper—good little Book-keeper.
Sweet little Book-keeper I.

TOAST: "The Shipping Department."

MR. JOHN MOSS.

"Orders are Heaven's first law."

—*Pope, converted.*

CHORUS.

We ship the boxes through;
And our gallant truck's a beauty—
We're packers good and true,
And attentive to our duty.
When the orders arrive, we look alive,
And pack the books all day.
When there's no morning mail, and the orders fail,
We've plenty of time to play.
(N. B.—Look out for the Boss.)

TOAST: "Post-Office Department."

MR. GEORGE L. BEESTON.

"Letters speed intercourse from soul to soul,
And waft large orders from Indus to the
Pole." —*Old Poet, adapted.*

"There were few things more impressive to him than a ship lying up against some lonely quay. . . . Sometimes a distant sail, gliding along the edge of the ocean, would be another theme of idle speculation." —*Ruskin.*

CHORUS.

Kind fellers, I've important information,
Sing hey the fearful teasers that you are;
A ship is coming from the English nation,
I saw her as she came across the bar.
A merry, merry steamer,
A merry, merry steamer,
A merry, merry steamer from afar;
A ship is coming from the English nation,
I saw her as she came across the bar.

TOAST: "The Store-key-per."

MR. MARCUS WOODLE.

CHORUS.

When I was a lad I served a term
As errand-boy to a publishing firm;
I stood on the ladder and I read all day,
But that I did while the boss was away.
I read the books so frequentlee,
That now I am the keeper of the big store key.

TOAST: "The Ladies."

"Here's to the maiden of bashful fifteen,
Here's to the widow of fifty;
Here's to the flaunting, extravagant quean,
Here's to the housewife that's thrifty.
Let the toast pass,
Drink to the lass,
I'll warrant she'll prove an excuse for the glass." —*Sheridan.*

THE STANLEY COPYRIGHT SUITS.

IN most of the copyright suits brought by Harper & Bros. in the matter of Stanley's "Through the Dark Continent," the cases have been withdrawn on satisfactory assurances that the Canadian piracy would not thereafter be sold. Injunctions have been obtained against other parties in the U. S. Circuit Courts for Massachusetts and Illinois, and in the Detroit case Judge Brown has rendered a decree in the U. S. Circuit Court against D. P. Work, permitting Harper & Bros. to recover all profits that have arisen from the sale of the work, and enjoining the defendant from purchasing or selling any more copies of the Canadian edition.

PERSONAL MENTION.

MR. DALDY, of Daldy, Isbister & Co., is in this country.

MR. A. L. BANCROFT, of A. L. Bancroft & Co., San Francisco, is coming East, and will remain in New York until June 1st. His headquarters will be at D. Appleton & Co.'s, where he will be pleased to see his friends.

POSTAL MATTERS.

THE SENATE AND THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

THE Senate has this week received from Postmaster-General Key a response to the resolution by which, on motion of Mr. Voorhees, the week previous, he was "directed to furnish his reason for barring the *Citizen Soldier*, a newspaper published in Washington City, from transmission through the mails at the same rates of postage accorded to other newspapers; and further, to state why he admits to the mails at pound rates of postage one journal, and excludes another of the same class from like privilege, furnishing with this statement the names of such newspapers as have heretofore enjoyed these rates of postage but are now denied them through recent rulings of his department." The Postmaster-General, after quoting these terms of the resolution, proceeds to say:

"In response thereto, I have the honor to submit that, while it is competent for that honorable body (the Senate) to call upon this department for any information that may be of service to the legislative branch of the government in matters of legislation, it is respectfully insisted that it is not within the just province of the legislative branch to direct an executive officer of the government to furnish his reasons for the performance of a duty devolved upon him by law. I have taken the liberty, however, of supposing that it was not the intention of the Senate to direct me to furnish a reason for an administrative act of this department, but rather to furnish such information relating to the subject-matter of the resolution as will be of service to that body in the enactment of such laws as may be deemed expedient and necessary. Entertaining this view of the object of the resolution, I have the honor to inform the Senate that the records of this department show that a paper published in the city of Washington, styled the *Citizen Soldier*, was referred to this department by the postmaster at said city, with an inquiry as to the rate of postage properly chargeable thereon. Upon a reference of said inquiry to the Assistant Attorney-General for this department, it was held that said paper was a 'regular publication, designed primarily for advertising purposes,' within the meaning of Section 15 of the Act of July 12th, 1876, and, therefore, chargeable with postage at the rate of one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof. The opinion of the Assistant Attorney-General was approved by me, and the postmaster advised accordingly. Subsequently, viz., on the 25th of March, 1879, at the urgent request of the proprietors of the paper in question, the ruling in this case, together with the whole subject-matter of the proper construction of said act, was referred to the Attorney-General, where it is now pending, awaiting his consideration.

"Replying to the second branch of the Senator's inquiry, I have the honor to say that no such discrimination as is intimated therein is made by this department. The only knowledge which this department has of what publications are transmitted in the mails at the rates fixed by Section 5 of the Act of June 23d, 1874, and those prescribed by Section 15 of the Act of July 12th, 1876, is that furnished by an occasional reference by the postmaster at the office of mailing in a doubtful case, and the ruling

made by the department thereon. Such cases, however, are isolated ones, the determination of the status of all publications offered for mailing, under the two acts referred to, resting, in the first instance, with the local postmaster. Should the Senate desire the names of such publications as have been determined to be of the one class or the other, on an appeal to this department, they will be furnished upon an intimation of such a desire.

"Very respectfully, D. M. KEY,
Postmaster-General.

"To the President of the Senate."

PUBLICATIONS FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES.

THE Attorney-General has affirmed the decision of the Assistant Attorney-General for the Post-Office Department that "regular publications designed primarily for advertising purposes" cannot be sent through the mails at the rates charged legitimate newspapers. He holds that a paper may be originated and published for the dissemination of information of a public character, have a legitimate list of subscribers, and yet be designed primarily for "advertising purposes" within the meaning of the law; that the term relates to a paper the principal object of which is to advertise the business of the owner. That a publication may have all the characteristics of a legitimate newspaper entitled to the pound rates of postage, yet if it appears from the columns of the paper itself or from other satisfactory evidence that the primary or principal object of the paper is to advertise the business of the editor or proprietor, it falls within the class denominated "regular publications designed primarily for advertising purposes."

AUTHORS AT WORK.

GEORGE H. GORDON is preparing a history of Pope's campaign.

MR. J. BRANDER MATTHEWS, the writer of the article on "Molière, the Life and the Legend," in *Lippincott's* for April, is at work on a full biography of the great French dramatist.

MRS. WISTER is translating from the German Marlitt's latest novel, entitled "In the Schillingscourt." The trade should bear this well in mind, for Mrs. Wister's translations are among the best selling novels published.

MR. GEORGE MEREDITH, an English writer, will bring out before long a new novel styled "The Egoist, a Comedy in Narrative." The work is in some degree an experiment, as it is a deviation from our later realism, and its point of view is the comic, in the higher sense of the word, instead of the sentimental.

THE announcement is made of a new novel by Henry Gréville (Madame Durand), entitled "Cité Ménard," and now being translated into English, in Paris, under the title of "Menard Alley," by Miss Helen Stanley, from the author's advance sheets. The purpose of this book is said to be to represent the virtues of the common people of France, as that of M. Zola seems to be to represent their vices, and from this point of view it bids fair to be an agreeable change.

BUSINESS NOTES.

BOSTON, MASS.—A. W. Lovering, the gift-bookseller of Boston, has moved from his "archway store," under the old Marlboro' Hotel (which is being torn down), to No. 336 Washington Street, where pianos, gold watches, and other luxuries too numerous to mention are daily given to his customers.

CLEVELAND, O.—Stephen E. Brooks and Arthur S. Brooks, late of Brooks, Schinkel & Co., succeed S. E. Brooks in the stationery business at the old stand, 117 Superior Street.

NEW YORK CITY.—F. W. Christern has removed from his old quarters in University Place to a very handsome store at 180 Fifth Avenue.

NEW YORK CITY.—Ward & Drummond will move in a few days to their new store, 116 Nassau Street.

WILLIAMSPORT, PA.—Mr. A. D. Lundy succeeds to the well-known firm of Ayers & Lundy. "Capt." J. J. Ayers, having grown old, retires from business altogether.

LITERARY AND TRADE NOTES.

J. M. STODDART & Co. have nearly ready volume nine of their reprint of the "Encyclopædia Britannica."

WARD & DRUMMOND (successors to U. D. Ward) have just put to press the second edition of the "Star Book for Ministers," by Rev. E. T. Hiscox, D.D.

MR. F. W. CHRISTERN has received the third series of Alexander Dumas, Jr.'s, "Entr'Actes." This includes the famous "Homme-femme" papers.

THE interesting novel of Hassaurek, "Secret of the Andes," meeting with great success, is being translated into German, and will soon be published by Robert Clarke & Co.

MR. WM. BLAIKIE's new book, "How to Get Strong, and How to Stay So," is nearly ready at the Harpers', and a volume of "Recreations in Astronomy," by the Rev. H. W. Warren, D.D., with illustrations, is in press.

A NEW Cedarcroft edition of Bayard Taylor's novels, 5 vols. in box at \$1.25 each, in a neat cover of tinted board, with design in red and black, is in preparation at G. P. Putnam's Sons'—a happy idea for summer trade.

LOCKWOOD BROOKS & Co. have in press a metrical translation of Virgil's "Æneid," by Lieut.-Gov. John D. Long, of Massachusetts, which has been read in manuscript by some very competent critics, whose verdict is exceedingly favorable.

LEE & SHEPARD will bring out in a few days "Zophiel," the poem referred to frequently in this column; No. 6 of Geo. M. Baker's "Reading Club," an excellent collection of short stories, sketches, and poems; and a small book on "Head Dress," in which at least half of mankind is interested.

A NEW volume of sermons by Rev. M. J. Savage, of Boston, is now in course of preparation for early publication by Lockwood, Brooks & Co. Mr. Savage is a thoughtful, radical preacher, who has the habit (said not to be absolutely universal) of saying in the pulpit just what he thinks in his study.

"THE Ghost of Redbrook," a new novel, by the author of "The Clifton Picture," "The Lacy Diamonds," "Odd Trump," etc., is announced by J. B. Lippincott & Co. His former works have been spoken of as fresh, free, healthy, unconventional, and well written, and with a purity of style that is refreshing.

IT is as well to be accurate even in small things, and we apologize to our readers for two errors carelessly allowed to slip into a recent issue. The letters of Arsène Houssaye were originally published by Mr. Gill, not by Mr. Lovell, and the English publishers of Stanley's "Through the Dark Continent" are of course not Longmans & Co., but the Low house.

D. APPLETON & CO. are doing a good thing in putting into neat cloth binding, at a very low price, the more permanent issues of their popular *New Handy Volumes*. The "Ruskin," to be presently published, will be issued in this style as well as in paper, and with it the already published "Carlyle," and the volumes on the Composers have been similarly treated.

A TRANSLATION of Prof. Haeckel's latest contribution to the scientific war now raging in Germany, "Free Science and Free Teaching," will be published by D. Appleton & Co. They have also in preparation his work on "The Evolution of Man: a Popular Exposition of the Principal Points of Human Ontogeny and Phylogeny," with colored plates and numerous engravings on wood.

MR. J. N. OGILVIE, for ten years with the National Temperance Society, is about to start, at No. 29 Rose Street, New York, the American Temperance Publishing House, and has already in press "The American Temperance Speaker, No. 1," and three lectures by John B. Gough. He will also keep in stock the temperance issues of other publishers and run a few miscellaneous lines.

D. LOTHROP & CO. have just issued "My Daughter Susan," one of "Pansy's" pleasant stories; and will shortly publish "Yensie Walton," a religious story, by Mrs. S. R. Graham Clark; "Poor Papa," by Mary W. Porter; and "Six Months at Mrs. Prior's," by Emily Adams. These stories are all illustrated, and appeal to those who find entertainment and instruction in the books published by this house.

MACMILLAN & CO. have just received the first part of one of the most important enterprises of scholarship of the day—in Skeat's "Etymological Dictionary," which appears in the *Clarendon Press Series*. This is the product of the most thorough learning and the most advanced scholarship, and will take rank as the standard book of reference. There will be four parts, at the moderate price of \$2.50 each.

J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO. will shortly reprint Rawlinson's great work on "The Five Great Monarchies of the Ancient World," and also the "Lusiad" by Camoens, translated by R. F. Duff, of which the *Athenaeum* spoke so highly. They have in press in addition "A Guide to the Popular Terms in Science and Art," by C. Banks Brookes, and "Tales of Old-Thule," collected and copiously illustrated by J. Moyr Smith.

MESSRS. SPON have in press a work on "The Electric Light in its Practical Applications," by Dr. Paget Higgs; "A Collection of Decimal Tables of Weights, Measures, etc., to serve as

an appendix to Molesworth's "Pocket-book of Engineering Formulae;" a book "On Steel, its History, Manufacture, and Uses," by J. S. Jeans, Secretary of the British Iron and Steel Institute; and another on "Corliss Engines and Allied Steam Motors," by W. H. Uhland, translated by A. Tolhausen, C.E.

AMONG those who suffered in the destructive fire which occurred in Philadelphia on Sunday, April 6th, at Fourth and Rose streets, were Ignatius Kohler, German bookseller and importer, whose loss is estimated at \$50,000, with about \$25,000 insurance; Messrs. A. W. Stuart & Sons, booksellers and printers, loss \$11,000, covered by insurance; and Messrs. Boericke & Tafel, the homœopathic book publishers, who lost quite heavily on stock that was stored in that vicinity. The fire was the most severe that has visited Philadelphia for a long time. The locality seems to be unfortunate, it being the third time within a few years that it has been burnt, and all were large fires.

MR. HENRY KIDDLE, the well-known Superintendent of the New York City schools, has prepared a book, nearly ready at the Authors' Publishing Co.'s, which will be received as very extraordinary, coming from the source it does. This is a volume entitled "Spiritual Communications," and claiming to present "a revelation of the future life, illustrating and confirming the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith," "affording a proof of the truth of Christ's mission and doctrines more conclusive than has ever been given since the age of the Apostles." The author believes these to be authentic communications from the eternal world, a belief arising from his investigations into psychological phenomena.

AN exceptionally interesting announcement is made by J. B. Lippincott & Co. in "The Reader's Handbook," by E. Cobham Brewer, LL.D., author of the "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable." Much criticism has been written upon the present tendency to abridge and condense; but what will the critics say when they take up "The Reader's Handbook" and find the stories of Homer's "Iliad" and "Odyssey," Virgil's "Æneid," Dante's "Divine Comedy," Milton's "Paradise Lost and Regained," "The Nibelungen Lied," the "Lusiad" of Camoens, with the story poems of Chaucer, Spenser, Tennyson, Longfellow, Scott, Byron, etc., etc., told in a few lines? The object of the work is to supply readers and speakers with a lucid but very brief account of such names as are used in allusion and references, whether by poets or prose writers, to furnish those who consult it with the plot of popular dramas, the story of epic poems, and the outline of the well-known tales. Who has not asked what such and such a book is about? and who would not be glad to have his question answered correctly in a few words? This gives the purpose of the work, and it will be a valuable assistant to the trade as well as to the public. It will be a 12mo of about 1000 pages.

PROF. MOSES COIT TYLER, whose admirable "History of American Literature" has placed him among our leading writers, has just completed an elaborate and comprehensive "Manual of English Literature," which seems likely to supply a need long felt by advanced students in our colleges and high schools. The work is based on that of Prof. Henry Morley, of the Uni-

versity of London, by arrangement with him, and is thus practically the joint work of these two authors of distinction and practical teachers of long experience. Their book is intended to be broader in scope and more thorough in treatment than any other in existence; it is particularly rich in its development of fields hitherto neglected, such as literature before Chaucer, and literature between Chaucer and Queen Elizabeth. It traces for the first time the inception and growth of the several great forms

of English literature, in prose and verse, from the seventh century down to the nineteenth; and in its division into periods, in its numerous tables and charts of authors, and in its grouping of materials (subordinating the minor matter in smaller type) it presents an altogether new and original view of the whole subject. Messrs. Sheldon & Co. are to publish the work in very beautiful style early in June, ready for teachers and professors who are forming their plans for the next academic year.

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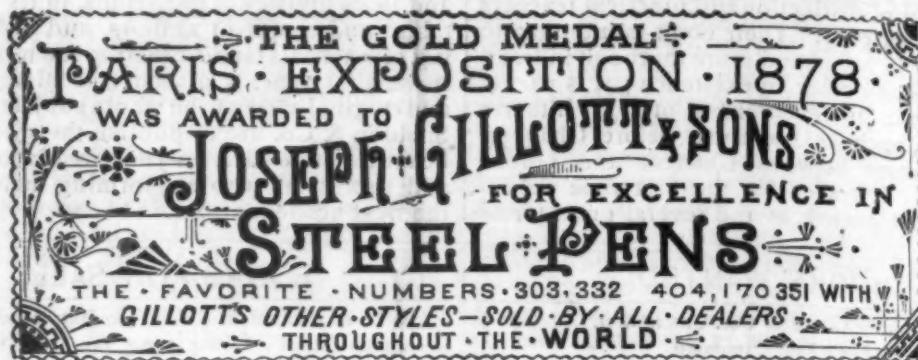
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